

A SENSATION.

BUT A VERY SMALL ONE, AT BEST.

The Treasury Portfolio--Speculations as to Mr. Manning's Successor--Internal Taxes--Briefs.

(From Our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, February 18.—The following speculation has been made in certain quarters: What if the Democrats shall be in the majority next December or whenever March 7? The votes of six Democratic and twelve Republican senators expire on the 3d of March next. The Democrats are Jones of Florida, Cockrell of Missouri, Fair of Nevada, Whitthorn of Tennessee, Maxey of Texas, and the London of Massachusetts. The Republicans are Williams of California, Hawley of Connecticut, Harrison of Indiana, Dawes of Massachusetts, Conner of Michigan, McMillan of Minnesota, Van Wyck of Nebraska, Sewell of New Jersey, Miller of New York, Mitchell of Pennsylvania, Mahone of Virginia, and Sawyer of Wisconsin.

The Democrats choose to organize before the new members are sworn in, they could seize the power of the Senate, elect a President *pro tempore*, and appoint the committee. Of course, nothing would be done as yet, but it is a thing which would be done as soon as the incoming senators should be properly qualified and take their seats, unless it should appear that there was a Democratic majority with the new senators. Of course there is no likelihood of this, but it is a thing which would be done as soon as the incoming senators should be properly qualified and take their seats, unless it should appear that there was a Democratic majority with the new senators.

The possibility of such a procedure is merely the sensation which a western correspondent telegraphed to New York, and which is as yet known to few persons. Perhaps there is something sensational in the fact that the Democrats will be in the majority, even for a single moment when it is considered that they have the House of Representatives and the President at the same time.

THE TREASURY PORTFOLIO.

There is a pressure on the President to give the Treasury portfolio to a big statesman or politician. It is objected to Mr. Fairchild that he has not enough political experience for an important position in the cabinet. His financial and general executive ability are conceded. More is heard to-day of Mr. Carlisle as Mr. Manning's successor. Some gentlemen who are now to the Speaker are impressed with the belief that he will not be tendered the office, and that he will accept it. It is urged that he is not at all at variance on the silver question with the policy of the Administration; that he is known to be opposed to the extreme silverites, and that the President has now reached the point where it is necessary to put the conduct of the finances into the hands of a western man. Notwithstanding all that is thus urged, it is not at all probable that Mr. Carlisle is a probable successor of Mr. Manning.

INTERNAL TAXES.

Interviews with several of the gentlemen who are now in the movement to effect the abolition of the internal taxes enable me to say distinctly, what would have been gathered from this correspondence some time ago, that there is no longer any hope of securing such legislation in the Forty-ninth Congress. It is now too late in the session. If anything should pass the House during the last six days it would have a chance for favorable action in the Senate under the pressure of other business. Gentlemen have, therefore, turned their thoughts to other things and are now too busy to effect anything to the assembling of the Fifty-third Congress. They talk gloomily of the political situation in Virginia and North Carolina.

FOURTH COLLECTION DISTRICT.

In the Senate to-day Mr. Keena reported from the Committee on Commerce an act of June 15, 1886, changing the district of Virginia. The bill is reported in amended in several particulars. The first section is amended so as to read: "That the district of Newport News shall comprise all the waters and shores from the mouth of the Rappahannock river to the west bank of the James river, to a point on the Peninsula," &c., &c., as in the original bill. The second section is amended so as to follow: "The district of Norfolk and Portsmouth to comprise all including Hampton Roads," &c., &c., "provided that any vessel destined for or departing from any interior customs district of Virginia or any vessel destined for or departing from the Norfolk district shall have the right of passage through or anchorage in the waters of Hampton Roads, as the waters of Hampton Roads were wholly embraced in such customs district, or of the Yorktown district as herein defined, and in no respect shall be subject to the customs regulations of the Norfolk district." The bill transferring Orange, Durham, and Chatham counties from the Western to the Eastern judicial district of North Carolina is also reported. The amendments adding Person and Moore counties. Edmunds fought the latter proposition, but Ransom won a victory over him. The vote stood 32 yeas to 8 nays. The transfer was made not only because of greater convenience to the people, but on account of the comparative inactivity of the Western. The Western has the larger business. The bill, with amendments, was referred to-day in the House to a conference committee.

Mr. Charles A. Dana held a reception on the floor to-day at the seat of Mr. Randall during the session of Congress. Mr. Dana is entitled to floor privileges. Mrs. Dr. George Wythe Cook and her sister, Miss Lloyd, retired Virginians, will give a reception on the 21st instant in honor of their guest, Miss Jackson, of Virginia.

Mr. B. H. Tyson, of Wilson, N. C., is in the city.

Marshall McCormick and wife, of Clarksville, are visitors.

Stephen Mason, of Fauquier, is in the city.

Enger, the New York Murderer.

(By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

WASHINGTON, February 18.—The records of the Navy Department show that Edward Unger, who is being tried in New York for murder, was dismissed and not honorably discharged from the navy May 24th, for stealing a bale of sheeting while serving as an ensign on board the USS. Unger confessed to a well-written appeal for mercy to Secretary Welles. He stated that he was driven to commit the act by extreme want. He entered the navy in December, 1861, and while serving in the Potomac flotilla he was

married in Washington. Six months after marriage he was compelled to go to sea, and during his absence his wife became insane, he said, and destroyed all the property and clothing he possessed. Upon his return he was obliged to pay for her care at an insane asylum, and although she recovered sufficiently to be discharged from the asylum, he was in such want and distress that in a moment of madness he was led to commit the theft.

CONFIDENTIALITY.

The Knights and the Amalgamated Iron- and Steel-Workers.

(By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

PITTSBURGH, February 18.—The strike of the Junction Iron-Works, Wingo, Ohio, threatens to cause serious trouble between the Knights of Labor and the Amalgamated Association of Iron- and Steel-Workers. The strikers are members of both organizations, and a conflict of authority has arisen between the leaders of these two powerful associations. The men struck for pay for the time they were compelled to remain in the mill through breakage of machinery, and the Amalgamated Association supported them in their demands. The Knights of Labor opposed the strike and ordered a demonstration of work, while the Amalgamated Association forbade the men returning until the demands were conceded. William H. Bailey, of the General Executive Board of the Knights of Labor, and President Wells, of the Amalgamated Association, have had a conference, but no settlement has been reached. It is expected that the strike will continue for some time.

THE WEALTH OF A HERMIT WHO IS SLOWLY DYING.

A Keyport (N. J.) telegram says: John I. Schenck, the old Mount Vernon hermit, is slowly dying at the home of his brother, to which he has been removed from the Mount Vernon hermitage. He is now in his ninety-third year, and has been in bed for nearly five years. He is a man of great wealth, and his estate is valued at over \$1,000,000. He is a man of great wealth, and his estate is valued at over \$1,000,000. He is a man of great wealth, and his estate is valued at over \$1,000,000.

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HOLDING THE FORT.

THE CAUCUS DEMOCRATS AND THE FIGHT FOR CAMDEN.

The Twenty-third Ballot--Only Five More Days of the Session--The Press.

(Special Telegram to the Dispatch.)

CHARLESTON, W. Va., February 18.—The twenty-third ballot of the most notable session ever held in the State took place to-day, but the preceding ballots, was void of result. The vote showed no change. Camden received 37; Hutchinson (Republican), 38; Haymond (Independent Democrat), 11; D. D. Johnson and O. Campbell (Democrats), 1 each; A. W. Campbell (Republican), 1. But five more days of the session remain in which a ballot can be taken, and as the end approaches the Democratic press throughout the State has redoubled its efforts to persuade the disaffected Democrats to support the caucus nomination of Wells, and to the disensions which divide the party. Arguments, entreaties, and threats, however, are alike powerless to move them, and they are to-day as determined to defeat the will of the majority, if they can, as they were at the assembling of the Legislature. The only man who can be elected is Camden, but he only by Republican votes. That he will get them is possible, but when?

550,000 IN AN OLD LOG HUT.

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A TALE OF MILLIONS.

AND A PRETTY WELL MIXED ONE IT IS.

Railway Interests by the Stories that Are Told of the Fortune of

Richard Denton Left.

A Railway special says: This city is all agog to-day over developments which have been brought to light showing that a former resident here of most ordinary surroundings and habits, but now dead, was the possessor of large wealth, and the mysterious disposition of it furnishes one of the liveliest stories of the town.

VERDICT FOR BUTLER.

Lester's Suit Results in Favor of the Defendant.

NEW YORK, February 18.—The suit of